United Nations A/CONF.224/PC(I)/9

General Assembly

Distr.: General
16 June 2014

Original: English

Third United Nations World Conference on Disaster Risk Reduction

Preparatory Committee
First session
Geneva, 14-15 July 2014
Item 6 of the provisional agenda
Considerations on the post-2015 framework for disaster risk reduction

Outcome of Sixth Session of the Pacific Platform for Disaster Risk Management, 2 to 4 June 2014, Suva, Fiji

Note by the secretariat*

1. In accordance with General Assembly resolution 67/209 of December 2012, the Assembly, in looking forward to regional platforms scheduled in 2014, stressed the importance of regional coordination in the framework of the preparatory process for the Third World Conference.

2. The Sixth Session of the Pacific Platform for Disaster Risk Management was held from 2 to 4 June 2014 in Suva, Fiji, producing a meeting statement which read:

"Sixth Session of the Pacific Platform for Disaster Risk Management

"The Way Forward: Climate and Disaster Resilient Development in the Pacific

"2-4 June 2014, Suva, Fiji

"Meeting statement

"*We*, the representatives of Pacific Island Countries and Territories[1], Timor Leste, civil society organisations, regional organisations and development partners attending the Sixth Session of the Pacific Platform for Disaster Risk Management in Suva, 2-4 June 2014;

"*Mindful* of the challenge of strengthening the climate and disaster resilience of the Pacific islands region in the context of sustainable development;

* This document was submitted late due to the need to include as much information from consultations as possible.

[1] Australia, Cook Islands, Federated States of Micronesia, Fiji, French Polynesia, Kiribati, Marshall Islands, Nauru, New Caledonia, New Zealand, Niue, Palau, Papua New Guinea, Samoa, Solomon Islands, Tokelau, Tonga, Tuvalu, Vanuatu, Wallis and Futuna.

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"*Commit* to an ongoing inclusive and collaborative effort involving all stakeholders and ensuring that the needs of the most vulnerable groups are given paramount consideration;

"*In* relation to the Post-2015 Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction:

"1. *Endorse* the evolving concept of disaster risk management referred to as part of the United Nations Special Representative for the Secretary General for Disaster Risk Reduction "Proposed Elements for Consideration in a Post-2015 Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction" and the need to strengthen action to prevent risk accumulation and build resilience.

"2. *Recognise* that preventing and reducing disaster risk require whole-of-society institutions' engagement and leadership.

"3. *Acknowledge* the contributions of the Hyogo Framework for Action (2005-2015) in assisting the Pacific region to build stronger and more resilient communities to disasters.

"4. *Encourage* a Post-2015 Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction to link where appropriate with the Post-2015 Sustainable Development Goals and the Climate Change Agreements to strengthen coherence and mutual reinforcement of international mechanisms.

"5. *Encourage* the reporting on progress of the Post-2015 Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction to be linked with the new Strategy for Climate and Disaster Resilient Development in the Pacific to reduce the reporting burden on Pacific Island Countries and Territories, being mindful of national reporting obligations.

"6. *Acknowledge* the need for a system for monitoring and supporting the implementation of a Post-2015 Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction in the Pacific region and assist Pacific Island Countries and Territories to report progress on the implementation of the Framework.

"7. *Request* the United Nations Office for Disaster Risk Reduction (UNISDR) to convene regional collaborations to enhance the monitoring and review mechanism of disaster risk reduction, including indicators, as well as a process for review of the terminology and to explore with Pacific countries and regional organisations the best modalities for regional cooperation, coordination with development partners, to implement and periodically review the Post-2015 Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction.

"8. *Recognise* that the private sector, non-governmental organisations, civil society organisations, persons with disabilities, women and men, the elderly, children, youth, migrants and volunteers are all agents for change and their unique skills, knowledge and experience must be incorporated into disaster risk management and climate change adaptation planning and action to ensure holistic and sustainable approach to reducing risk and more effective response to hazards in the Pacific.

"9. *Urge* Pacific partners to share case studies and experiences of the Pacific in the integration and mainstreaming of disaster risk management, climate change adaptation and sustainable development at the 6th Asian Ministerial Conference for Disaster Risk Reduction, the Third Small Island Development States Conference in Samoa, and the Third United Nations World Conference on Disaster Risk Reduction and other relevant fora.

"10. *Encourage* the observation of human rights in disaster risk management.

"11. *Urge* the full and meaningful involvement of youth, women and persons with disabilities in gender balanced delegations to the Third United Nations World Conference on Disaster Risk Reduction, and in the development and implementation of the Post-2015 Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction and the Strategy for Climate and Disaster Resilient Development in the Pacific at the global, regional and national levels.

"12. *Recognise* disaster risk reduction as an effective means to achieve resilience through prevention, mitigation and preparedness to enable nations and communities and absorb damage and loss, minimise impacts and bounce forward and build back better to link disaster risk management with sustainable development.

"*In* relation to the Strategy for Climate and Disaster Resilient Development in the Pacific:

"13. *Note* and support the three goals of the Strategy for Climate and Disaster Resilient Development in the Pacific to be:

"Goal 1: Strengthened Risk Management, including Climate Change Adaptation and Disaster Risk Reduction;

"Goal 2: Low Carbon Development;

"Goal 3: Strengthened Disaster Preparedness, Response and Recovery.

"14. *Note* that further consideration is required for the proposed monitoring, evaluation, reporting and learning arrangements including an assessment of indicative costs required, and the governance and institutional arrangements that will underpin implementation of the Strategy and note that the results matrix requires completion.

"15. *Recommend* that, as a priority, further detail be included in the draft Strategy on the role of a Pacific Resilience Partnership to oversee the implementation of the Strategy working in close association with existing partnership mechanisms.

"16. *Agree* that the Strategy will be a source of strategic guidance for action related to climate and disaster resilient development in the Pacific at the regional national, sub-national and community level.

"17. *Note* that the Chair's Summary of this meeting will reflect the detailed feedback from participants on the Strategy content, which will be incorporated into the Strategy.

"18. *Recommend* the Strategy for Climate and Disaster Resilient Development in the Pacific be tabled for consideration and endorsement by the governing councils of the Secretariat of the Pacific Regional Environment Programme (September 2014) and Secretariat of the Pacific Community (November 2014) and eventual approval by Pacific Island Forum Leaders in 2015.

"19. *Recommend* that national finance and planning institutions and relevant agencies play a central role in strategic, whole of country approaches for climate and disaster resilient development and medium to longer term recovery from disasters.

"20. *Advance* the role of national finance and planning agencies in identifying, mobilising and coordinating resources for climate and disaster resilient development.

"*In* relation to the Post-2015 Development Agenda:

"21. *Appreciate* the opportunity provided to engage in the consultation process toward a new Framework for Pacific Regionalism, a recasting of the Pacific Plan.

"22. *Reaffirm* the importance of the global discussions on the Post-2015 Development Agenda/Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and the Third International Conference on Small Island Developing States (SIDS 2014) and identifying linkages between their processes and outcomes.

"23. *Acknowledge* the inclusion of Disaster Risk Management and Climate Change related targets in the proposed Sustainable Development Goals.

"24. *Emphasize* that the Pacific's position on Post-2015 Development Agenda be based on the notion of resilient development, informed by discussions on the Strategy for Climate and Disaster Resilient Development in the Pacific and builds upon the experiences and lessons learnt to date.

"25. *Identify* the following as key Pacific regional imperatives for effective disaster risk management and climate change adaptation:

"(a) The vital importance of high level political support for climate and disaster resilient development backed by specific budget allocations and investments;

"(b) Bridge the gap between climate change adaptation and disaster risk management policy and practice at community, national and regional level;

"(c) Close coordination of disaster risk management and climate change funding;

"(d) Institutional alignment of responsibilities and policy coherence across sectors to effectively manage disaster risk;

"(e) Establish, maintain and promote the collection and use of risk information and knowledge including disaster loss databases to support disaster risk reduction and climate change adaptation supported by dedicated resources, requisite capacities and appropriate information and communication technologies to make data accessible to the public and in user-friendly format to inform and reduce risk to communities, businesses and development activities;

"(f) Develop incentives and partnerships for the private sector to increase investment in disaster risk management, climate change adaptation and low carbon development to boost resilience and the sustainability of local economies;

"(g) Further investment in monitoring systems and scientific research and their practical applications in informing decision-making in disaster risk management, climate change adaptation and low carbon development.

"Adopted on 4 June 2014, Suva, Fiji"